Correspondence

Oregon and Organization.

PORTLAND, OREGON, Dec. 29, 1905.

To the Editor:—In your issue of Dec. 9, 1905, appears an article by J. N. McCormack, M.D., which, among other unwarranted statements about the medical profession in Oregon, contains this: "There was evidence on every hand that the schools of Oregon do not have high standards of requirements." In commenting on this article editorially, you write: "The average of the profession is low and the medical schools are weak."

By a strange coincidence, THE JOURNAL for December 9, containing these slurs, did not reach me in my mail, so I did not see it until a few days ago, when a copy was handed to me by a medical friend; otherwise I would have replied sooner.

As there are but two medical schools in Oregon, and the medical department of the University of Oregon is one of them, it is fair to assume that that school was included in the general libel on Oregon schools.

As dean of that school since its organization, almost twenty years ago, permit me to say that the statements regarding it made by Dr. McCormack are unjust and without proper foundation.

When the school was organized in 1887, it was what nearly all medical schools in the United States were at that time, a two-year course school. Shortly after that it became a three-year-course school, and in 1895 adopted the four-year graded course requirement. It has always kept at least abreast of the requirements laid down from time to time by the Association of American Medical Colleges (of which it has been a member since 1896), and at present requires four courses of lectures of seven and a half months each, with a curriculum in excess of that required by the Association of American Medical Colleges. Its laboratory and clinical facilities are ample, its lecture corps is efficient, its examinations are rigid. Its students who have gone elsewhere have stood high in other colleges. Its alumni furnish successful, prominent and respected practitioners in all parts of this country. The men connected with the school have labored honestly, assiduously and untiringly, in competition with the large and strongly endowed schools and with much self-sacrifice, constantly to elevate its standard, and they have been successful in keeping it on a plane commensurate with the advanced ideas of the times. Not a year has passed that its efficiency has not been increased.

The school does not pretend to approach in equipment the great endowed medical schools where the attendance is so much greater and where specialties are thoroughly taught, but it does maintain an equipment equal to the needs of the numbers in its classes, and its facilities enable us to teach well and thoroughly. It presents an instance of the small unendowed school doing honest, faithful and efficient work, notwithstanding that it is overshadowed and belittled by its great and haughty brother, the endowed school. But the small school has its work to do, and always will have; further, you will find that the small colleges of the country have given as many or more great men to the world as have the great schools. As in all schools, great or small, some poor students gain entrance and even graduate, so exceptionally such cases may have occurred here; but even if so, no fair-minded man would think of making such rarely exceptional cases the standard of worth of the school.

I am surprised that a man occupying the position of chairman of the committee on organization of the American Medical Association should have such a poor conception of justice and equitable rights as to pronounce such judgment as is contained in his screed on Oregon without proper investigation. If his pronouncements on other matters are based on such partial observations and investigations as in the case in point, they are absolutely without value.

Dr. McCormack has done us the gross injustice of publishing to the world, on insufficient and *ex parte* testimony given by prejudiced persons, his conclusions that the schools of Oregon do not have high standards of requirements. Editorially you add insult to injury by stating that this school (it being in-

cluded in the "schools of Oregon") is weak. Evidently Dr. McCormack's mind was poisoned from the lips of those who are jealous of the school and its success, and who vindictively take every opportunity to smirch its good name. Such are to be found in every community which is striving to be or has become a medical center. What was Dr. McCormack's duty before publishing his conclusions regarding this school? Clearly to hear both sides of the question. Had he come to me or to any other member of this faculty for information, it would have been furnished to him gladly. The same remark applies to your own editorial expression. That a great journal should condemn this school as a weakling, on the mere *ipse dixit* of a traveler on organization of the American Medical Association, without notice or opportunity to be heard, is astounding, nay, outrageous.

I met and talked with Dr. McCormack on the evening of his visit and address to the Portland City and County Medical Society, but to me he said never a word about investigating medical schools or reporting on them, nor of wishing information as to what he had heard of them or of their operations.

His strictures on the medical profession of Oregon, and of Portland in particular, founded on half-truths and distorted facts, are unjust and unwarranted, because he has founded a judgment on hasty and superficial investigation of conditions, instead of searching deeply for the whole truth. If he had probed deeper he would have found that those whom he tries to scourge with his rod are the ones who, by effort and loyalty to the medical profession and to the American Medical Association, have been earnest laborers in the work of organization.

S. E. JOSEPHI, M.D.

The above letter was referred to Dr. McCormack, who replies as follows:

BOWLING GREEN, KY., Jan. 7, 1906.

To the Editor:—For nearly five years I have been engaged in a critical study of professional conditions, customs and prospects in nearly every section of the country, and in reporting the results of such observations in a manner intended to be both kind and helpful after my visit to each state. Charged with important duties, I have been forced to say unpalatable things, but, being without either the motive or inclination to do any section or individual injustice, and my work being entirely in the interest of harmony and well-being of the profession of the state or locality visited, Dr. Josephi is the only one who has ever questioned the accuracy of any statement made by me.

I have had numbers of letters from the leading physicians of Oregon expressing regret for the necessity of saying these plain things, but cordially indorsing what I had written, as well as the spirit in which it was done. Without further reference to these, or to the fact that my criticisms were based on personal observation and inquiry in almost every section of the state, I am going to put Dr. Josephi on the stand and prove by him that I might have said much more along the same lines and still be well within the bounds of truth. I said that the schools of Oregon did not have high standards of requirements, and the editorial comment was that they were weak. I quote Dr. Josephi on the same point, so far as his school is concerned: "The school does not pretend to approach in equipment the great endowed schools where the attendance is so much greater and where specialties are thoroughly taught," and, to my surprise, he evinces the unfortunate spirit found so abundantly there, which I had been informed he did not possess, when he says again, "notwithstanding that it is overshadowed and belittled by its great and haughty brother, the endowed school."

I said again, in substance, that personal and factional jealousy dominated the profession of his city. Dr. Josephi makes this appear very mild when he says, in the light of his long experience as a practitioner and teacher there, "Evidently Dr. McCormack's mind was poisoned from the lips of those who are jealous of the school and its success, and who vindictively take every opportunity to besmirch its good name." I submit that neither my article nor the editorial complained of contain anything, in substance or spirit, so conclusive as these quotations.

I am doing this work very reluctantly, and would not do it at all if I could not discuss the results of my investigations with the utmost frankness. The fundamental evils which

form the basis of my criticism were freely admitted to exist in my presence by leaders of the profession, publicly and privately, and knowledge of them is common property in Oregon. I was informed that Dr. Josephi was fitted by both temperament and training to lead in such a movement as would raise the schools, societies and profession above just criticism, and I trust that he will do so. When he reads my article again, after he is restored to his natural good temper, he will find that every line breathes the spirit of kindness, and that every unpalatable truth is told with regret. I quote my concluding paragraph: "My personal experience in Oregon was most pleasant. . . . If a profession with such leaders could only be unified, everything would be possible to it, and it is the hope of arousing them to this duty that I have hesitatingly and reluctantly expressed these criticisms."

J. N. McCORMACK, M.D.

Teaching Nursing by Correspondence.

TOLEDO, OHIO, Jan. 3, 1906.

To the Editor:—The committee on public health and legislation of the Academy of Medicine of Toledo ask for information based on experience which any of your readers may have as to the advisability of teaching nursing by correspondence courses. We wish especially to procure actual experiences which physicians may have had with such nurses. We do not care for arguments as to the logical possibility of such course, but whether in actual practice such nurses are satisfactory, and we wish replies from those who have tried them. These replies will be considered confidential if the writer requests it.

The replies may be sent to the undersigned, the secretary of the society.

WALTER H. SNYDER, M.D.

211 Ontario Street.

Association News

NEW MEMBERS.

List of new members of the American Medical Association for the month of December, 1905:

ARIZONA.

Slayton, F. H., Clifton.

ARKANSAS.

Ball, C. C., Ravenden.
Bradsher, R. E., Marmaduke.
Grammer, J. B., Searcy.
Jamison, O. A., Elgin.
Jumper, C. E., Dermott.
Morton, J. T., Lexa.
McConnell, J. W., Boonville.
Rightor, H. H., Helena.

CALIFORNIA.

Armstrong, E. C., Pomona.
Ball, J. D., San Juan.
Creese, Robert, Santa Maria.
Crump, J. M., Santa Rosa.
Duncan, A. M., Los Angeles.
Fricke, Richard, Oakland.
Gray, Edward, Eldridge.
Lyle, Annie G., San Francisco.
Mavon, J. L., Vallejo.
Michael, Luther, Ferndale.
Mills, J. M., Larkspur.
Posev, A. C., San Jose.
Radebaugh, J. M., Pasadena.
Reckers, W. A., Placerville.
Schwarz, Jacob, San Francisco.
Wilson, W. L., San Mateo.

COLORADO.

Baker, W. T. H., Pueblo.
Dymenberg, Noa, Rifle.
Ewing, G. F., Vernon.
Hassenplug, W. F., Cripple Creek.
Herr, Ida S., Boulder.
Holmes, R. E., Canon City.
Howe, A. L., Wray.
Kahn, Maurice, Leadville.
Libby, G. F., Denver.
McKibbin, Samuel, Amethyst.
Miller, J. K., Greeley.
Rambo, J. W., Florence.

CONNECTICUT.

Bradley, M. S., Hartford.
Cohane, T. F., New Haven.
Darling, A. E., Killingly.
Dwyer, P. J., Waterbury.
Griggs, J. B., Stamford.
Holbrook, C. W., E. Haven.
Splier, S. L., New Haven.
Wright, G. H., New Milford.

DELAWARE.

Black, J. J., New Castle.
Nickerson, H. A., Magnolia.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Bartsch, Anna, Washington.
Digges, J. H., Washington.
Kelley, J. T., Jr., Washington.
Mitchell, J. E., Washington.
Prentiss, E. C., Washington.
Repetti, J. J., Washington.
Snowden, E., Washington.
Sobon, Frederick, Washington.

FLORIDA.

Garner, J. E., Wauchula.
Huddleston, R. H., Miami.

GEORGIA.

Andrews, C. R., Atlanta.
Eddie, J. G., Beach.
Fleming, A., Astoria.
Fort, A. G., Lumpkin.
Foster, J. J., College Park.
Goldsmith, J. M., Atlanta.
Johnson, M. M., Waycross.
Kenyon, J. M., Weston.
McCleary, H. L., Royston.
Rogers, F. S., Coleman.
Riley, B. F., Jr., Thomson.

IDAHO.

Ross, H. P., Nampa.
Thompson, R. S., Moscow.

ILLINOIS.

Bruce, W. W., Casey.
Baker, W. E., Chicago.
Brawley, F. E., Chicago.
Brouillett, R. J., Chicago.
Bumstead, C. M., Monticello.
Bowe, Edward, Jacksonville.
Cochran, W. A., Danville.
Cunningham, J. S., Des Plaines.
Colehour, S. P., Mt. Carroll.
Darling, U. G., Chicago.
Donaldson, C. O., Dwight.
Eldredge, R. L., Frankfort.
Fithian, P. H., Fithian.
Feingold, Leon, Chicago.
Fitzgibbon, G., Chicago.
Hand, H. W., White Hall.
Hale, J. I., Anna.
Hogan, T. A., Chicago.

Headland, J., Galva.
Hohmann, W. D., Kewanee.
Katz, B. G., Chicago.
Murfin, W. W., Patoka.
Murfin, J. W., Vernon.
Mal, H., Chicago.
Mackechnie, H. N., Chicago.
Morton, J. B., Ridgefarm.
McCabe, L. C., Chicago.
Patera, Edward, Chicago.
Parkes, C. H., Chicago.
Rainey, G. S., Salem.
Redmond, T. B., Danville.
Rezanka, G. W., Chicago.
Rees, O. H., Ogden.
Stuppnick, M. J., Chicago.
Stackable, W. H., Chicago.
Smedley, N. J., Chicago.
Ticken, J. D., Piper City.
Tunnicliff, Ruth, Chicago.
Walker, H. W., Grantsburg.

INDIANA.

Aikman, E. A., Clinton.
Blount, R. T., Homer.
Blossom, J. C., Mt. Summit.
Boor, M. A., Terre Haute.
Bushaw, B. E., Marengo.
Combs, M. R., Terre Haute.
Evans, C. S., Union City.
Fox, H. A., Gosport.
Gibbs, J. C., Crown Point.
Grover, C. B., Greensburg.
Hall, M. L., Newport.
Howes, J. M., Bowling Green.
Kethcart, N. L., Columbia City.
McPadden, W. C., Shelbyville.
O'Brien, W. M., Danville.
Powell, E. U., Greentown.
Ross, W. H., Veedersburg.
Schoen, P. H., New Middletown.
Staley, T. M., Bicknell.
Tomlinson, C. H., Cicero.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

Garrett, G. H., Sapulpa.

IOWA.

Arthur, S. H., Scranton.
Dennison, J. C., Bellevue.
Hofstetter, George, Lyons.
Lovelady, J. M., Sidney.
Moore, W. E., Derby.
Oshana, Aphasie, Crystal Lake.
Parker, R. H., Storm Lake.
Poore, A. B., Cedar Rapids.

KANSAS.

Emley, S. C., Lawrence.
Hale, B. L., Neal.
Huff, W. D., Westphalia.
Harper, F. A., Pittsburg.
Haning, W. P., Belleville.
Jarrett, M. F., Fort Scott.
Justice, H. S., Hutchinson.
Kirkwood, J. W., Wichita.
McClymonds, R. C., Walton.
Plummer, R. S., N. Topeka.
Warren, L. P., Clearwater.
Weaver, C. D., Galva.
Welch, James, Tampa.
Yankey, J. W., Esbon.

KENTUCKY.

Gillespie, B. G., Berry.
Jenkins, W. A., Louisville.
Rhea, R. H. C., Morgantown.
Smith, L. L., Paducah.
Swope, H. S., Ashland.
Thompson, Z. A., Pikeville.
Walters, W. J., Pikeville.

LOUISIANA.

Dossman, R. S., Ville Platte.
Moise, A. B., New Orleans.

MAINE.

Coombs, G. H., Waldoboro.
Howes, L. M., Enfield.
Sullivan, T. D., Calais.
Wing, E. M., North Anson.
Weeks, A. H., Portland.

MARYLAND.

Barnes, W. M., Baltimore.
Chambers, J. W., Baltimore.
Davis, S. G., Baltimore.
Fisher, P. R., Denton.
White, E. H., Cumberland.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Brown, E. M., Springfield.
Bundy, F. E., Boston.
Crofts, N. M., North Adams.
Crockett, E. A., Boston.
Charteris, M. A., Worcester.
Day, H. F., Boston.
Day, C. C., Newburyport.
Dutton, Charles, Wakefield.
Francis, C. S., Brookline.
Farlow, J. W., Boston.
Gates, G. W., Boston.
Hare, C. H., Boston.
Jordan, J. F., Peabody.
Jones, F. E., Boston.
Kirby, J. R., Clinton.

Larrabee, R. C., Boston.
Lowell, A. F., Gardner.
Lecompte, W. A., Boston.
Lavalley, G. O., Lowell.
Little, J. M., Jr., Boston.
Lamoureux, J. E., Lowell.
Morrow, C. H., Gloucester.
Mixer, S. J., Boston.
Paul, W. E., Boston.
Pierce, C. W., Boston.
Quinby, W. C., Boston.
Russell, C. B., Boston.
Stickney, G. A., Beverly.
Seelye, R. H., Springfield.
Smith, Theobald, Boston.
Taylor, E. W., Boston.

MICHIGAN.

Blodgett, W. E., Detroit.
Campbell, E. H., Newbury.
Ciley, E. O., Conklin.
Cobb, L. R., Belleville.
Herzer, H. A., Albion.
Hartman, G. J., Muskegon.
Hughes, G. A., Cassopolis.
Harris, R. H., Battle Creek.
King, L. A., Baroda.
MacKenzie, John, Reese.
McCutcheon, W. C., Cassopolis.
McClelland, L. N., French. Benton Harbor.
Nicholson, J. H., Hart.
Oakman, C. S., Detroit.
Planck, E. A., Union.
Post, H. I., Belleville.
Stewart, Morse, Detroit.
Thompson, A. E., St. Clair.
Whitten, W. D., Baltic.

MINNESOTA.

Gosslee, G. L., Wabasso.
Hynes, J. E., Minneapolis.
Jensen, M. J., Minneapolis.
Judd, E. S., Rochester.
Zimbeck, R. D., Montevideo.

MISSISSIPPI.

Clarke, N. L., Meridian.
Elliott, H. R., Shuford.
Hand, R. M., Shubuta.

MISSOURI.

Aufferhelde, W. D., St. Louis.
Bond, H. W., St. Louis.
Blair, V. P., St. Louis.
Coffelt, T. A., Springfield.
Houwink, J. J., St. Louis.
Martin, J. C., Kansas City.
Patterson, W. P., Springfield.
Statler, W. K., Oakridge.
Tuholske, M. C., St. Louis.

MONTANA.

Leavitt, E. D., Butte.
Stokes, R. L., Lewistown.

NEVADA.

Heinzmann, W. H., Austin.

NEBRASKA.

Angle, E. J., Lincoln.
Bartlett, W. C., Alma.
Bishop, J. C., Omaha.
Gadbois, A. E., Humphrey.
Hoffman, J. O., Orleans.
Koutsky, J. W., South Omaha.
Lueschen, A. G., Columbus.
Patchin, F. J., Nelson.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Fernald, Fred, Nottingham.

NEW JERSEY.

Heron, A. M., Lakewood.
Kudlich, W. T., Hoboken.
Werst, N. B., Egg Harbor City.

NEW MEXICO.

Lane, B. E., Las Cruces.
Raschbaum, L. B., Roswell.
Van Arsdell, E. B., Alamogordo.

NEW YORK.

Colby, F. B., Highland Falls.
Danzi, Emanuel, New York City.
Filsinger, F. W., Buffalo.
Hutchinson, J. L., Jamestown.
Higgins, R. P., Cortland.
Tirrell, M. L., New York City.
Trevett, Ira P., West Seneca.

NORTH DAKOTA.

Arzt, P. G., Balfour.
Bailey, F. H., Fargo.
Eede, J. W., Harvey.
Johns, S. M., Vely.
Lindstrom, J. S., Oberon.
Newkamp, H., Fessenden.
Paulson, A. J., Flaxton.
Skelsey, A. W., Fargo.
Windell, H. C., Kenmore.

OHIO.

Bown, H. H., Pleasant City.
Biele, A. M., Columbus.